

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A preload is applied to a thermoplastic seal to induce deformation of the seal. As the seal undergoes deformation (e.g., cold flow), it completes the seal. Thermoplastics such as PEEK, PEK, PPS, PEKEKK, and PET are examples of materials that may be used in the seal. It is emphasized that this abstract is provided to comply with the rules requiring an abstract which will allow a searcher or other reader to quickly ascertain the subject matter of the technical disclosure. It is submitted with the understanding that it will not be used to interpret or limit the scope or meaning of the claims. 37 CFR 1.72(b).